



## KENTUCKY DRUG CONTROL UPDATE

This report reflects significant trends, data, and major issues relating to drugs in the State of Kentucky.

### Kentucky At-a-Glance:

In 2009-2010, Kentucky was one of the top ten states for rates past-year non-medical use of pain relievers among persons age 12-17.

Source: National Survey on Drug Use and Health 2009-2010.

- The number of meth lab seizure incidents in the state of Kentucky increased 296%, from 441 incidents in 2008 to 1,747 incidents in 2011.

Source: El Paso Intelligence Center's National Seizure System (EPIC-NSS)

- Approximately 7.01 percent of Kentucky residents reported past-month use of illicit drugs; the national average was 8.82 percent.
- In 2009, the rate of drug-induced deaths in Kentucky significantly exceeded the national average. For the 2004-2008 time period, three Kentucky counties ranked in the top ten for rates of drug poisoning deaths in the nation. These counties include Bell County at 47.9 deaths per 100,000 population (the 6<sup>th</sup> highest), Clinton County at 46.8 deaths per 100,000 population (the 7<sup>th</sup> highest), and Martin County at 44.5 deaths per 100,000 population (the 10<sup>th</sup> highest).

## Drug Use Trends in Kentucky

**Drug Use in Kentucky:** The National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH) provides national and state-level data on the use of tobacco, alcohol, illicit drugs (including non-medical use of prescription drugs), and mental health in the United States. In the most recent Survey, 7.01 percent of Kentucky residents reported using illicit drugs in the past month. The national average was 8.82 percent. Additionally, 3.42 percent of Kentucky residents reported using an illicit drug other than marijuana in the past month (the national average was 3.6 percent).

Source: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration - State Estimates of Substance Use and Mental Disorders from the 2009-2010 National Surveys on Drug Use and Health: <http://store.samhsa.gov/shin/content/SMA11-4641/SMA11-4641.pdf>

**Drug-Induced Deaths:** As a direct consequence of drug use, 786 persons died in Kentucky in 2009. This is compared to the number of persons in Kentucky who died from motor vehicle accidents (823) and firearms (560) in the same year. Kentucky drug-induced deaths (18.2 per 100,000 population) exceeded the national rate (12.8 per 100,000).

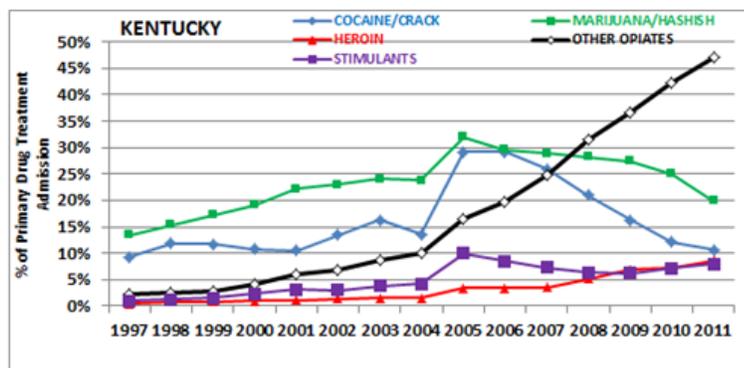
Source: WONDER online databases: <http://wonder.cdc.gov/cmfi-icd10.html>

## Substance Abuse Treatment Admissions Data

### Kentucky Primary Treatment Admissions:

The graph on the right depicts substance abuse Primary treatment admissions in Kentucky from 1997 to 2011. The data show that other opiates (including prescription drugs) are the most commonly cited drugs among primary drug treatment admissions in the state.

Source: Treatment Episode Data Set, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration: <http://www.samhsa.gov/data/DASIS.aspx#teds>



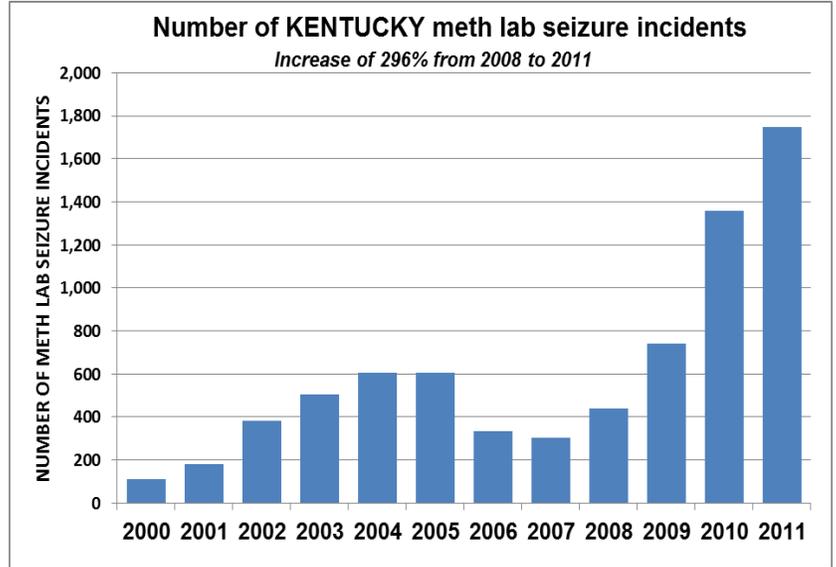
Note: The Treatment Episode Data Set (TEDS) only displays data from 1997-2011 for Kentucky.

## Methamphetamine Lab Seizure Data

### Methamphetamine Lab Seizure Incidents:

Nationwide, methamphetamine lab seizures declined drastically following the 2005 Federal Combating Methamphetamine Epidemic Act (CMEA) and similar state laws to control the sale of pseudoephedrine (PSE). Recently, the number of meth labs seized has risen due to “smurfing,” which is the bulk purchase of PSE for non-therapeutic reasons, and due to smaller, more mobile “one-pot” labs. Nationwide, meth lab seizures rose 53% between 2008 and 2011. Meth lab seizures in Kentucky have exceeded this overall trend, increasing 296%, from 441 incidents in 2008 to 1,747 incidents in 2017.

Source: EPIC, NSS, extracted 7/20/2012.



### State-Level Action: Return pseudoephedrine to prescription-drug status

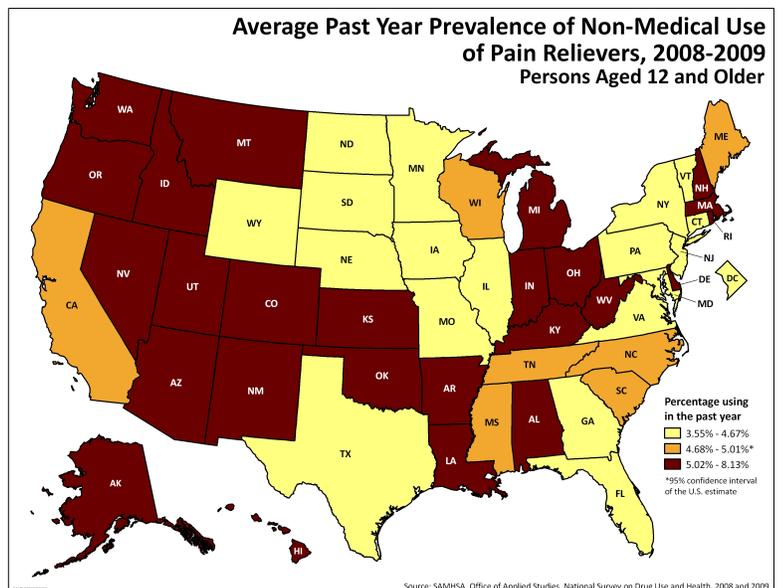
Facing a steep increase in meth lab incidents, the state of Oregon returned medicines containing PSE to prescription-drug status in 2006. Several years later, the results are promising, with meth lab incidents declining from a high of 467 in 2004 (prior to enactment of the bill) to 12 in 2009 and Oregon officials reporting a virtual “eradication” of smurfing and meth labs. Experiencing a similar rise in meth lab production and trafficking, Mississippi enacted similar legislation, which took effect on July 1, 2010. Mississippi reports that after six months, there has been a nearly 70 percent reduction in meth-related cases statewide.

## Prescription Drug Abuse

### ONDCP’s Efforts to Combat Prescription Drug Abuse

Prescription drug abuse is the fastest-growing drug problem in the Nation. The Administration’s Prescription Drug Abuse Prevention Plan, entitled “**Epidemic: Responding to America’s Prescription Drug Abuse Crisis,**” provides a national framework for reducing prescription drug diversion and abuse by supporting the expansion of state-based prescription drug monitoring programs; recommending secure, more convenient, and environmentally responsible disposal methods to remove expired, unused, or unneeded medications from the home; supporting education for patients and healthcare providers; and reducing the prevalence of pill mills and doctor shopping through enforcement efforts.

### State-Level Action: Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs (PDMPs)





Although all 50 states have laws against drugged driving, law enforcement often lacks adequate tools to enforce and prosecute drugged driving. ONDCP encourages states to develop and implement *Per Se* standards that make it illegal to drive a vehicle after taking illegal drugs. This is the same standard used successfully for 12 million commercial drivers in the United States over the past two decades. *Per Se* standards have been adopted in 17 states.

**Kentucky does not have a *Per Se* standard.** However, under Kentucky Revised Statutes Section 189A.010, a person shall not operate or be in physical control of a motor vehicle while under the influence of any other substance than alcohol or combination of substances which impair one's driving ability or while under the combined influence of alcohol and any other substance which impairs one's driving ability. Proof required: Defendant was operating or was in physical control of a motor vehicle in Kentucky and while operating the vehicle, the defendant was under the influence of a substance which impaired the defendant's driving ability. No possible defenses are found. Refusal to submit to a drug test is admissible into evidence in criminal cases.

Source: *A State-by-State Analysis of Laws Dealing With Driving Under the Influence of Drugs*, by the Walsh Group for the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

## ONDCP Support for Community-Based Prevention

### National Anti-Drug Media Campaign

ONDCP's National Youth Anti-Drug Media Campaign provides consistent and credible messages (including those in Native American and Alaska Native communities) to young people about drug abuse and its consequences. *Above the Influence*, a major component of the Campaign, informs and inspires youth to reject illicit drugs and drinking via a mix of national and local advertising vehicles. The Campaign, in close partnership with local community-based, youth-serving organizations, also conducts teen-targeted *Above the Influence* activities to assist local groups with youth drug prevention work in their respective communities.

### The Drug Free Communities (DFC) Program

Recognizing that local problems require local solutions, Drug Free Communities (DFC) organizations mobilize communities to prevent youth drug use by creating local data-driven strategies to reduce drug use in the community. ONDCP works to foster the growth of new coalitions and support existing coalitions through the DFC grants. In FY 2012, the following Kentucky coalitions received grants from ONDCP:

- 7<sup>th</sup> Street Corridor PAL Coalition
- Breckinridge County Coalition for Change
- Bullitt County Partners in Prevention
- Calloway County Alliance for Substance Abuse Prevention (CCASAP)
- Campbell/Taylor County Anti-Drug Coalition
- Champions for Drug Free Carroll County
- Champions for a Drug Free McCreary County
- Corbin Community Coalition
- Carter County Drug Task Force
- Green County KY ASAP (Agency for Substance Abuse Policy)
- Hancock County Partners for a Healthy Community and Healthy Youth
- Kentucky Agency for Substance Abuse Policy-Northern Kentucky Board
- Knott Drug Abuse Council
- Magoffin County Local Board for KY-ASAP/Coalition
- Mayor's Alliance on Substance Abuse
- McLean County Community Coalition
- The Monroe County KY-ASAP Board
- Ohio County Together We Care
- Owsley County Drug Awareness Council
- Portland Now Prevention Partnership
- Prevention Advocates for Tomorrow's Health (PATH) Coalition
- Pulaski County KY-ASAP Board
- Rowan County UNITE Coalition, Inc.
- Russell County Partners in Prevention
- The Save Our Kids Coalition
- Scott Countians Against Drugs
- The Scottsville Allen County Faith Coalition, Inc.
- Seven Counties Services
- Shelby County Drug/Alcohol Advisory Council, Inc.
- Trimble CARES
- Washington County Heartland Youth Coalition

Source: Office of National Drug Control Policy  
[http://www.ondcp.gov/dfc/grantee\\_map.html](http://www.ondcp.gov/dfc/grantee_map.html)

## ONDCP High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) County Info

The High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (HIDTA) program enhances and coordinates drug control efforts among local, state, and Federal law enforcement agencies. In designated HIDTA counties, the program provides agencies with coordination, equipment, technology, and additional resources to combat drug trafficking and its harmful consequences in critical regions of the United States.

### HIDTA Counties in Kentucky

**Appalachia HIDTA:** Adair, Bell, Breathitt, Clay, Clinton, Cumberland, Floyd, Hardin, Harlan, Jackson, Jefferson, Knott, Knox, Laurel, Lee, Leslie, Letcher, McCreary, Magoffin, Marion, Owsley, Perry, Pike, Pulaski, Rockcastle, Taylor, Warren, Wayne, and Whitley counties.

The Appalachia HIDTA operates out of London, Kentucky, and encompasses 67 counties in three states: Kentucky, Tennessee and West Virginia. During 2009, the State of Kentucky was the Nation's fourth largest illicit producer of domestic marijuana. Diverted prescription drugs obtained by traffickers and abusers from South Florida pain clinics also pose a severe threat to Kentucky. Other methods of diversion include pharmacy theft, "doctor shopping," and multi-ethnic drug trafficking organizations (DTOs) based in Detroit, MI, and Columbus, OH.

Methamphetamine production, trafficking, and abuse present additional serious threats to the public. Although state laws controlling the sale and access to pseudoephedrine have had a significant effect on the number of clandestine methamphetamine laboratories in the region, small-quantity methamphetamine producers and abusers have adapted to the restrictions and are employing new techniques to acquire the necessary raw materials. The number of clandestine meth labs, dumpsites, and chemical/glassware seizures increased from 2009 to 2010. Methamphetamine is locally produced by abusers and loosely organized individuals who get together on an irregular basis to assemble equipment, obtain materials, and conduct a methamphetamine "cook."

- The Appalachia HIDTA is working with several other HIDTAs to stem the illicit flow of prescription drugs into Kentucky.
- The HIDTA's Up-in-Smoke initiative was responsible for the arrest and prosecution of over 109 individuals involved in illicit marijuana growing operations in the Daniel Boone National Forest.

## Federal Grant Awards Available to Reduce Drug Use in the State of Kentucky

The Federal Government awards competitive grants to help states in their efforts to reduce drug use and its harmful consequences. In FY 2012, direct support was provided to state and local governments, schools, and law enforcement organizations in your state for this purpose. Some Federal grant programs are dedicated to reducing drug use and its harmful consequences while others can be used for reducing drug use or for other purposes. In FY 2012, your State received support under the grant programs shown below.

### Federal Grant Awards That Help Reduce the Availability and Misuse Of Drugs In The State of KY

Department / Office / Program Name	2012
<b>Department of Agriculture</b>	<b>\$ 14,476,948</b>
<b>National Institute of Food and Agriculture</b>	
Cooperative Extension Service	\$ 14,476,948
<b>Department of Defense</b>	<b>\$ 4,800,000</b>
<b>The Army</b>	
National Guard ChalleNGe Program	\$ 4,800,000
<b>Department of Education</b>	<b>\$ 17,785,189</b>
<b>Office of Elementary and Secondary Education</b>	
Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities National Programs	\$ 430,085
Twenty-First Century Community Learning Centers	\$ 17,355,104
<b>Department of Health and Human Services</b>	<b>\$ 138,700,924</b>
<b>Administration for Children and Families</b>	
Enhance Safety of Children Affected by Substance Abuse	\$ 1,000,000
Promoting Safe and Stable Families	\$ 6,040,672
<b>Centers For Medicare and Medicaid Services</b>	
Medical Assistance Program - Grants to States for Medicaid To Treat Substance Abuse	\$ 48,742,996
<b>National Institutes Of Health</b>	
Alcohol Research Programs	\$ 9,868,256
Drug Abuse and Addiction Research Programs	\$ 37,914,250
<b>Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration</b>	
Block Grants for Prevention and Treatment of Substance Abuse	\$ 20,508,321
Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness (PATH)	\$ 473,000
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Projects of Regional and National Significance	\$ 12,531,031
<b>Health Resources and Services Administration</b>	
Healthy Start Initiative	\$ 1,622,398
<b>Department of Housing and Urban Development</b>	<b>\$ 23,114,344</b>
<b>Community Planning and Development</b>	
Emergency Solutions Grant Program	\$ 4,709,734
Shelter Plus Care	\$ 3,138,588
Supportive Housing Program	\$ 15,266,022
<b>Department Of Justice</b>	<b>\$ 6,289,204</b>
<b>Office of Justice Programs</b>	
Drug Court Discretionary Grant Program	\$ 950,000
Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program	\$ 3,412,970
Harold Rogers Prescription Drug Monitoring Program	\$ 167,793
Juvenile Accountability Block Grants	\$ 325,722
Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Allocation to States	\$ 400,000
Project Safe Neighborhoods	\$ 300,000
Residential Substance Abuse Treatment for State Prisoners	\$ 132,719
Second Chance Act Prisoner Reentry Initiative	\$ 600,000
<b>Department of Labor</b>	<b>\$ 966,952</b>
<b>Employment and Training Administration</b>	
Youthbuild	\$ 966,952
<b>Department of Transportation</b>	<b>\$ 1,798,337</b>
<b>National Highway Traffic Safety Administration</b>	
Alcohol Impaired Driving Countermeasures Incentive Grants I	\$ 1,798,337

**Federal Grant Awards That Help Reduce the Availability and Misuse Of Drugs In The State of KY**

<b>Department / Office / Program Name</b>	<b>2012</b>
<b>Department of Veteran's Affairs</b>	\$ <b>3,106,244</b>
<b>Veterans Health Administration</b>	
VA Homeless Providers Grant and Per Diem Program	\$ 3,106,244
<b>Executive Office of The President</b>	\$ <b>10,936,326</b>
<b>Office of National Drug Control Policy</b>	
Drug-Free Communities Support Program Grants	\$ 3,916,048
High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas Program	\$ 7,020,278
<b>Grand Total</b>	\$ <b>221,974,468</b>

File updated January, 2013.

